

Docket No. F-9076

Ser. No. 10/582,299

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-3 are rejected. .
Claims 1-3 are amended herein to clarify the invention. For the convenience of the Examiner, APPENDIX I is provided herewith having a complete set of pending claims with all amendments effected therein.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 1-3 are rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The Office Action cites various informalities in the claim language including awkward wording and lack of antecedent bases. The Office Action further indicates that claims 1-3 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if amended to overcome the §112, second paragraph rejection.

Claims 1-3 are amended to clarify the claimed invention and to place the claims into conformance with U.S. claiming practice. The amendments were made with consideration of the various informalities noted in the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments remove or correct the informalities noted in the Office Action. Therefore, and in light of the Office Action statement indicating that the claims contain allowable subject matter, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-3 and their allowance are earnestly requested.

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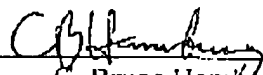
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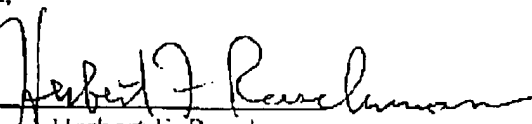
No fee is believed due. If there is any fee due the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX I**ALL PENDING CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS EFFECTED THEREIN**

1. (Currently Amended) A subdivided fixed amount distributing apparatus for attachment to an aerosol container having a fixed amount injection valve disposed within a pressurized volume of the aerosol container and having a stem slidably extending from the aerosol container, the distributing apparatus comprising:

a lower sleeve configured to be secured to a top end of the aerosol container and defining a center opening in a center thereof;

a nozzle body disposed in the center opening of the lower sleeve and formed with a nozzle bar having a lower end connectable to the stem extending from the aerosol container for delivering contents in the aerosol container, the nozzle body having a nozzle communicating with the stem;

a rotating body disposed at an upper side of the nozzle body, the rotating body having a tubular penetration bar extending from a center of the rotating body and the tubular penetration bar slidably accepting the nozzle bar, the rotating body being disposed rotatably with respect to the nozzle body and the lower sleeve;

a coil spring wound around the nozzle bar and situated between the rotating body and the nozzle body so as to bias the rotating body in an upward direction away from the nozzle body and the lower sleeve;

an annular body disposed at an upper side of the rotating body and having an annular body opening formed in a center of the annular body with the tubular penetration bar extending through the annular body opening, the annular body having sending blades with inclined sending blade surfaces circumferentially

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disposed on a bottom of the annular body, the inclined sending blade surfaces being inclined relative to a circumferential direction of the annular body;

a pushing body disposed at an upper side of the annular body and having a pushing body opening accepting the penetration bar, the pushing body being disposed to push the stem via the annular body, the rotating body, and the nozzle body when a user effects a pushing down operation on the pushing body to open the fixed amount injection valve disposed in the aerosol container thereby allowing ejection of entire amounts of aerosol contents, stored within the fixed amount injection valve, through the nozzle body and out the nozzle;

an upper sleeve secured to the lower sleeve at a lower end of the upper sleeve, the upper sleeve having a center opening slidably accepting the pushing body therethrough, and the upper sleeve securing between the upper sleeve and the lower sleeve in sequence the pushing body, the annular body, the rotating body, the spring, and nozzle body such that downward displacement of the pushing body by a user displaces said the annular body together with the rotating body against the bias of the spring and toward the nozzle body in a downward direction toward the aerosol container so that the rotating body engages the nozzle body to effect downward displacement of the stem via the nozzle body;

the upper sleeve having receiving blades extending downward from a top inner surface of the upper sleeve and being disposed annularly around an inner circumference of the upper sleeve and defining insertion intervals between adjacent ones of the receiving blades, the receiving blades each having a receiving blade lower end inclined surface formed as a tapered portion which is inclined relative to a circumferential direction of the upper sleeve;

said rotating body having a fitting piece projecting radially outward from an outer periphery of the rotating body such that rotation of the rotating body positions the fitting piece to align to slidably engage the receiving blade lower end

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inclined surfaces, to align to be insertable in the insertion intervals between the receiving blades, and such that the fitting piece is slidably engageable by the inclined sending blade surfaces of the annular body;

the rotating body and the fitting piece being so configured that downward displacement of the pushing body by the user pushes the annular body downward so that the fitting piece of the rotating body is pushed by the inclined sending blade surfaces of the annular body to a position lower than the receiving blade lower end inclined surfaces of the receiving blades along with the annular body to push the stem via the rotating body and the nozzle body to enable the fixed amount of the aerosol contents to be ejected, and the fitting piece being so configured that the inclined sending blades surfaces engage and rotationally displace the fitting piece in a first rotating direction so as to rotate the rotating body a predetermined amount;

the rotating body and the fitting piece are so configured that release by the user of the downward displacement of the pushing body allows the spring biasing to move the rotating body, the annular body and the pushing body upward such that the fitting piece slidably engages one of the receiving blade lower end inclined surfaces so as to be rotationally displaced another predetermined amount in the first rotating direction and further upward movement inserts the fitting piece in one of the insertion intervals adjacent the one of the receiving blade lower end inclined surfaces such that subsequent downward displacement of the pushing body results in a further rotational displacement of the fitting piece and the rotating body in the first rotational direction by sliding engagement with a next one of the inclined sending blades surfaces, and subsequent release of downward displacement results in a further rotational displacement of the fitting piece and the rotating body by sliding engagement with a next one of the receiving blade lower end inclined

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surfaces thereby effecting rotation of the rotating body by the repeated downward displacement and release of the pushing body;

and

said lower sleeve including a lower sleeve projection extending upward from an upper end surface of the lower sleeve and positioned such that rotation of the fitting piece and the rotating body by a predetermined number of the downward displacements of the pushing body and releases thereof rotates the fitting piece into a position aligned with the lower sleeve projection such that further downward displacement of the fitting piece and the rotating body is obstructed by the lower sleeve projection engaging the fitting piece and further stem displacement and content ejection is prevented.

2. (Currently Amended) The subdivided fixed amount distributing apparatus for an aerosol container according to claim 1, wherein:

the pushing body is provided with a pushing body projecting piece extending downward from a bottom surface of the pushing body;

the rotating body has a radially offset upwardly projecting contact wall circumferentially aligned with the pushing body projecting piece; and

wherein the pushing body is rotatably disposed within the upper sleeve such that rotation of the pushing body effects engagement of the pushing body projecting piece with the contact wall of the rotating body and rotational displacement of the rotating body and the fitting piece such the said obstruction of downward displacement of the fitting piece by the lower sleeve projection is releasable upon the rotation of the rotating body in association with manual rotation of the pushing body moving the fitting piece out of alignment with the lower sleeve projection.

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3. (Currently Amended) The subdivided fixed amount distributing apparatus for an aerosol container according to claim 1, wherein the pushing body is formed with a pushing projection at an upper surface thereof to be placed in pressurized contact with a user to effect said downward displacement of the pushing body.

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